

## **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

STATE CAPITOL HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

## REPRESENTATIVE VINCENT J. CANDELORA EIGHTY-SIXTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

DEPUTY REPUBLICAN LEADER

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING ROOM 4200 HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

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MEMBER
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FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE
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PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HB 5543

An Act Concerning the Creation and Expansion of Municipal Utilities Energy & Technology Committee Public Hearing March 20, 2012

To The Chairmen, Co-Chairmen, Ranking Members and Honorable Members of the Energy & Technology Committee:

I would like to respectfully request that you consider the attached written testimony from Richard Branigan, Town Manager of the Town of North Branford relative to his support of HB 5543.

This bill proposes to clarify the eminent domain power of a municipality concerning electric distribution facilities and the process for expanding a municipal electric utility's service area into a neighboring town.

I thank you for your consideration of Mr. Branigan's testimony and request your support and passage of this bill.

Sincerely.

incent J. Candelora

Deputy House Republican Leader

VJC/pb

Attachment (1)



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## TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

TOWN HALL 909 FOXON ROAD, NORTH BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT 06471-1290 TOWN MANAGER (203)484-6000 FAX (203) 484-6025

March 19, 2012

Honorable Vincent J. Candelora State Representative Legislative Office Building Room 4200 Hartford, CT 06106-1591

RE: HB 5543

Dear Representative Candelora:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Town of North Branford relative to the above-referenced legislation now pending action in the General Assembly.

The proposed legislation, which seeks to clarify the eminent power of a municipality, would allow municipally-owned electric utility to expand into a neighboring municipality for the provision of electrical services. The adjoining city or town could benefit greatly from the provision of those services.

In certain cases, electrical services are provided by more than one service provider. In the Town of North Branford, there are no less than three separate utilities (Wallingford Electric, The United Illuminating Company, and Connecticut Light and Power) which results in wide variances in electrical rates, service levels, and other factors. These issues are a constant source of confusion and complaint for many property owners and are exacerbated during periods of public emergency (such as Tropical Storm Irene and Storm Alfred).

I would respectfully request your support of proposed House Bill 5543 and I am available to you to at your convenience to discuss this issue in greater detail.

Respectfully yours,

Richard V. Branigan Town Manager

cc. Town Council

